

Indiana is offering a late season for Canada geese during the 2007-08 hunting season. The season runs from 1 – 15 February in the following counties only: Steuben, Lagrange, Elkhart, St. Joseph, La Porte, Starke, Marshall, Kosciusko, Noble, De Kalb, Allen, Whitley, Huntington, Wells, Adams, Boone, Hamilton, Madison, Hendricks, Marion, Hancock, Morgan, Johnson, Shelby, Vermillion, Parke, Vigo, Clay, Sullivan, Greene.

This late season targets urban geese that are forced out of towns and cities to feed as the weather gets colder. Snow cover also helps to drive birds out of town. Many years of surveying and research went into the preparation of this season before it was approved by the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Below are listed some of the important regulations of which you need to be aware when participating in this season. These regulations will be in effect for three to four years while we evaluate this late season.

1. The bag limit is five Canada geese per day (possession limit 10).
2. Shooting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.
3. Hunters must have an Indiana hunting license, Indiana waterfowl stamp, federal waterfowl stamp, and a HIP number to participate.
4. Hunters must also have a special free permit to participate. At this late date, permits can be obtained by visiting a Fish and Wildlife Area prior to the opening day of the season. Permits are no longer available through email. The permit has a brief survey attached to it. Hunters must return this survey to us. These surveys help us determine if we are meeting the federal requirements for this season. Failure to return the survey will make hunters ineligible for participation in this late season next year. The survey is postage-paid - no stamps required.
5. Regular waterfowl regulations apply. It is illegal to take Canada geese using electronic callers, shotguns capable of holding more than three shells, or to shoot after sunset. If hunters plan to hunt snow geese during this period, they must be aware that it is illegal to shoot Canadas using the extended snow goose methods.
6. All Canada geese harvested during this season must be checked at a state goose check station within 48 hours of kill (see attached for a list of locations, dates, and times). Hunters will need to tell the check station operator the date and county of kill. Check station personnel will age and sex the bird. If the bird is an adult, the head will be kept, and the rest of the bird returned to the hunter. Juvenile birds will not have the head removed. We need to measure the heads to determine the proportion of Indiana giant Canada geese taken during this season. Hunters will be given a check receipt for their birds, which must be shown to a conservation officer upon request. Birds may be breasted out before being checked, but the head, tail, reproductive parts, and at least one fully-feathered wing must be attached at the time of check.
7. Hunters are encouraged to report any banded geese harvested. This will help augment the data gathered through the check stations. Goose bands may be reported by calling toll-free 1-800-327-BAND, or online at www.reportband.gov.

The check stations will be open from 10am – 2pm on Fridays through Monday and Wednesdays of the late season (February 1-4, 6, 8-11, 13, 15). They may be open at other times, but hunters should call ahead to make sure there is someone there who can check birds if going outside of these published times.

Fish and Wildlife Areas

Kankakee: 4320 W Toto Rd, North Judson; (574) 896-3522

Kingsbury: 5344 S Hupp Rd, LaPorte; (219) 393-3612

Pigeon River: 8310 E 300 N, Mongon; (260) 367-2164

Tri-County: 8432 N 850 E, Syracuse; (574) 834-4461

Atterbury: 7970 S Rowe St, Edinburgh; (812) 526-2051

Minnehaha: 2411 E SR 54, Sullivan; (812) 268-5640

Goose Pond: two miles south of Linton on SR 59; (812) 659-9901

Reservoirs

Hardin Lake (Raccoon SRA office parking lot): 1588 S Raccoon Pkwy, Rockville; (765) 344-1884
Cagles Mill (Lieber SRA office): 1317 W Lieber Rd, Cloverdale; (765) 795-4576
Salamonie (service area): 9214 W Lost Bridge, Andrews; (260) 468-2125
Roush Lake (office): 517 N Warren Rd, Huntington; (260) 468-2165

State Parks (Please leave birds in your vehicle and inform staff that you have geese to check—they will accompany you to your vehicle.)

Ouabache (main gatehouse): 4930 E SR 201, Bluffton; (260) 824-0926
Mounds (visitor center parking lot): 4306 Mounds Rd, Anderson; (765) 642-6627
Turkey Run (nature center parking lot): 8121 E Park Rd, Marshall; (765) 597-2635
Potato Creek (nature center parking lot): 25601 SR 4, North Liberty; (574) 656-8186
Ft. Harrison (maintenance building): 5753 Glenn Rd, Indianapolis; (317) 591-0904

Field Offices

Cikana State Fish Hatchery (East Unit, metal buildings): 2650 SR 44, Martinsville; (765) 342-5527
Michigan City Fisheries Office: 100 W Water St, Michigan City; (219) 874-6824
Bloomington Wildlife Office: 553 E Miller Dr, Bloomington; (812) 334-1137
Northeast Regional Office: 1353 S Governors Dr, Columbia City; (260) 244-6805